

FIRST RECORD OF *IJIMAIA LOPPEI* ROULE, 1922 (LAMPRIFORMES: ATELEOPODIDAE) IN THE IBERIAN PENINSULA WATERS. Antonio PUNZON & Alberto SERRANO, Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Centro Oceanográfico de Santander, Apdo. 240, 39080 Santander, SPAIN.
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RÉSUMÉ. - Première capture de *Ijimaia loppei* (Lampriformes: Ateleopodidae) au large de la péninsule ibérique.

Deux spécimens de *Ijimaia loppei* ont été trouvés dans le Golfe de Gascogne et au large de la Galice. C'est le premier signalement pour les eaux de la Péninsule Ibérique. Des données biométriques sont incluses.

Key-words. - Ateleopodidae, *Ijimaia loppei*, ANE, Spain, Bay of Biscay, First record.

Two specimens of *Ijimaia loppei* Roule, 1922 (Ateleopodidae) were caught in the Northeast Atlantic. They are the first records of this species for the Iberian Peninsula, Bay of Biscay and Galician waters. There were two previous records of this species in this area, Roule (1929) from off Morocco and Du Buit and Quéro (1989) in the Celtic waters. *Ateleopus barnardi* Poll, 1953 has been cited as a possible synonym of *I. loppei* (Smith, 1986). Costa and Quéro (1991) proposed *Ateleopus natalensis* Barnard, 1947 as another possible synonym.

The first specimen was trawled off the coast of the Basque Country (Bay of Biscay) by the vessel "Nuevo Menéndez Valdés" in May 1997. The vessel was working in the fishing ground called "Recala" (43°56'N, 2°23'W) at 300-370 m depth. The second specimen was caught in the Galician Atlantic waters (43°44'N, 8°45'W) in June 1997 by the trawler "Hermanos Lijó" (Fig. 1).

The taxonomic classification follows Paxton (1986). The two specimens were compared to the descriptions by Roule (1922, 1929), Blache *et al.* (1970) and Smith (1977, 1986). Meristic counts were taken according to Laevastu (1971).

The first specimen was studied in the laboratory and it is deposited in the collection of

Cantabrian Maritime Museum of Santander (Northern Spain), with reference VC1-97. The second was discarded at sea and only the total length was recorded. The stomacal content was sampled in the first specimen.

The specimens agreed with the descriptions of *I. loppei* available in the literature.

The discarded specimen was 1600 mm TL. The specimen from Bay of Biscay was a female of 1340 mm TL and weighed 2720 g. Table I presents the biometrical data with Laevastu's nomenclature (1971) shown in brackets. Fins count: D 10; P 14; V 1+0; A+C 92

One specimen of the decapod *Liocarcinus depurator* (Linnaeus, 1758) was the only prey found in the stomach. It measured 32 mm (cephalothorax length) and weighed 4.44 g.

Both specimens were caught within the geographical distribution area for this species in the Northeast Atlantic, 48°20'N (Du Buit and Quéro, 1989) and 31°N (Roule, 1922) and also within its bathymetric range, 30-692 m (Paxton, 1996).

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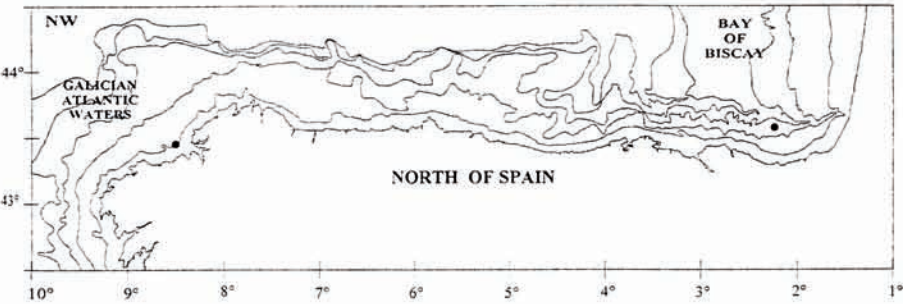


Fig. 1. - Position of the two specimens of *Ijimaia loppei* caught in the Bay of Biscay and the Galician Atlantic waters (North of Spain).

Table I. - Biometrical data of the *Ijimaia loppei* specimen from Bay of Biscay.

	in mm	in % TL
Total length (LT)	1340	-
Head length (LG)	184	13.73
Maxilar length (LJ')	80	5.97
Preorbital length (UO)	46	3.43
Postorbital length (UO')	101	7.54
Orbital length (OO')	17	1.27
Pupil diameter (Ed)	9	0.67
Length to dorsal fin (LD)	209	15.60
Length dorsal fin base (DD')	59	4.40
Dorsal fin height (Dh)	162	12.09
Length to pectoral fins (LP)	190	14.18
Pectoral fins height (Ph)	72	5.37
Length to ventral fin (LV)	137	10.22
Ventral fin height (Vh)	58	4.33
Length to anal-caudal fin (LA)	452	33.73
Length anal-caudal fin base (AA')	835	62.31
Anal-caudal height (Ah)	44	3.28
Length to anus (LZ)	420	31.34
Length to end of anus (LZ')	439	32.76
Maximum height (h)	129	9.62
Maximun width (b)	98	7.31

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